

sky blue

MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

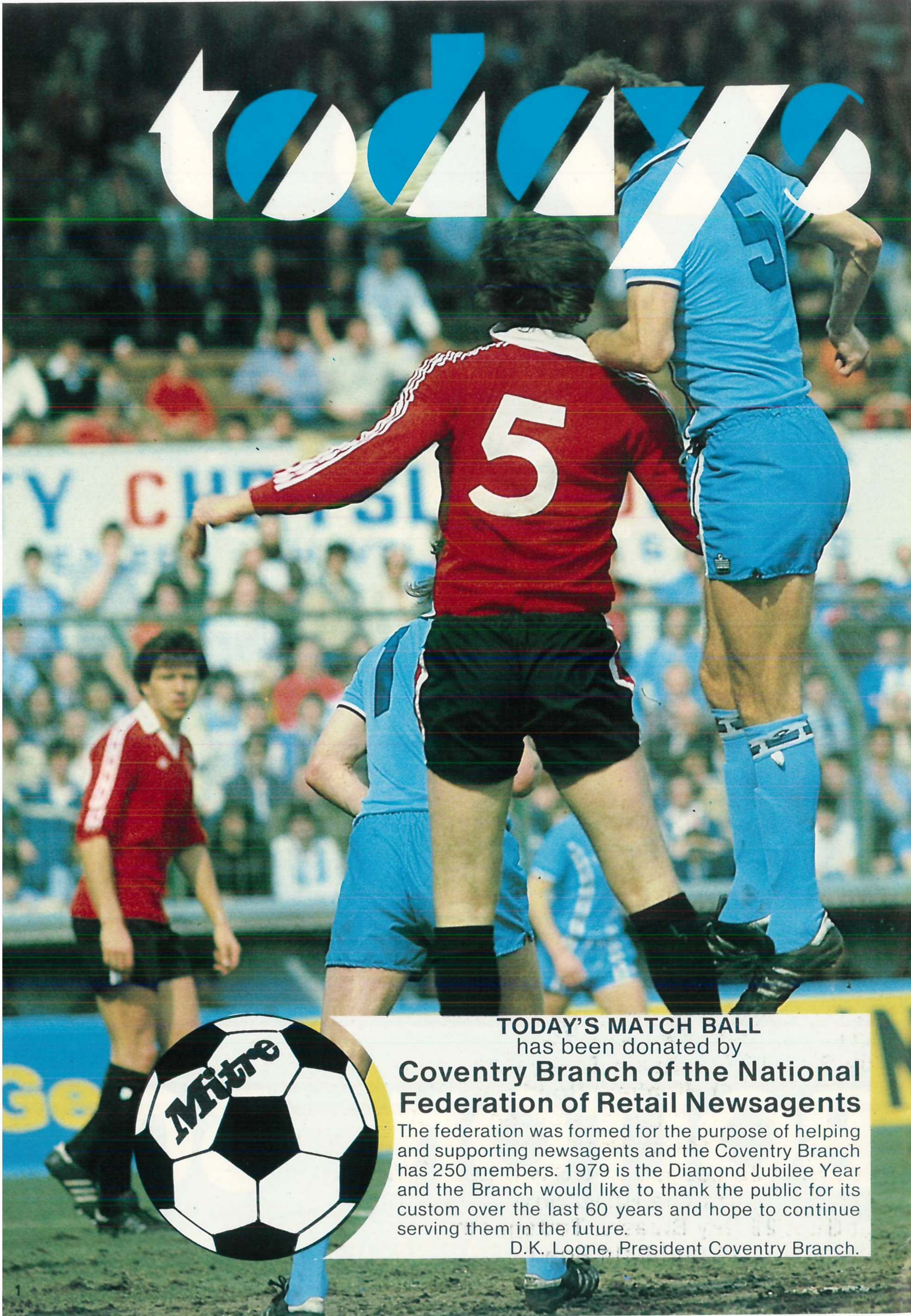
SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 1979 - 3.00 P.M.



BOLTON 30p

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF COVENTRY CITY F.C.

today



TODAY'S MATCH BALL
has been donated by

Coventry Branch of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents

The federation was formed for the purpose of helping and supporting newsagents and the Coventry Branch has 250 members. 1979 is the Diamond Jubilee Year and the Branch would like to thank the public for its custom over the last 60 years and hope to continue serving them in the future.

D.K. Loone, President Coventry Branch.



COVENTRY

		Games Played	Goals
1	Les Sealey	2	-
2	Brian Roberts	4	-
3	Bobby McDonald	7	1
4	Andy Blair	5	-
5	Jim Holton	7	-
6	Gary Gillespie	6	-
7	Tommy Hutchison	7	1
8	Tom English	7	3
9	Mick Ferguson	7	1
10	Barry Powell	6	3
11	Steve Hunt	7	-

BOLTON

		Games Played	Goals
1	Jim McDonagh	7	-
2	Dave Clement	7	-
3	Peter Nicholson	5	-
4	Roy Greaves	7	-
5	Paul Jones	7	-
6	Mike Walsh	7	1
7	Willie Morgan	2	-
8	Neil Whatmore	7	2
9	Alan Gowling	7	1
10	Len Cantello	7	-
11	Neil McNab	6	1

ORANGE FLAG
P.W. Albert

REFEREE
Stephen Bates (Bristol)

YELLOW FLAG
R. Pearson

CITY'S WEEK

Tue Sept 18 City Res v. Derby County
at Highfield Road

Sat Sept 22 Sky Blues v. Manchester City
at Maine Road

Wed Sept 26 League Cup Sky Blues v. W.B.A.
at The Hawthorns

Sat Sept 29 Sky Blues v. Tottenham
at Highfield Road

top talk

with **GORDON MILNE**



IT'S LIVERPOOL FOR ME

Today's match makes it even-Steven, three home and three away, and victory over Bolton would give us six points, par for the course.

Many people would be happy with that after the first six games of a season. I am not saying it is an entirely satisfactory state of affairs, but it is not so bad when you consider that we are the only club in the country to have played at Nottm Forest and Liverpool.

That puts our current record into perspective. Most First Division teams have not played either of them at all yet, so their time is still to come.

Anfield and the City Ground are the hardest places in the Football League to go to, and it will be even harder next April and May, when they are really pushing for the honours.

West Brom lost 1-3 at Anfield and 1-5 to Forest at The Hawthorns, which gives an indication of what lies in store for other clubs.

Having played both of them, I mean no disrespect to Forest when I say that I can see no one getting near Liverpool this season. People are continually looking for new ideas in this game, but Liverpool roll on in a machine-like consistency which is just not true.

They are in a different dimension to everyone else. They play it so simply, so economically, that I cannot see anyone else living with them. There is no other team in the League producing soccer like that - and that includes Forest.

Anfield is always a formidable place to go, and last Saturday the gap between us and Bob Paisley's side was large. But we have now got the two hard ones out of the way and we can look forward optimistically to making up some lost ground.

You always get lessons and reminders in this game and the experience learned against sides like Liverpool can be invaluable. Everyone else is still learning the game. At the moment they are a different class and we now

have most of the season stretching in front of us to put the lesson into good effect.

Bolton have been to Anfield where they forced a draw, which is quite an achievement. Not many teams do that, so there is no way we are under-estimating them today. They are one point better off than us before today's kick-off, and you can only judge any side by their League position.

What I like about Bolton is that they have not tried to establish themselves by physical means but by playing football, which is a credit to Ian Greaves.

Looking Back

1964-65 Bolton 1 Coventry City 3 (Kirby 2, o.g.) Coventry City 0 Bolton 0

1965-66 Bolton 4 Coventry City 2 (Rees, Curtis) Coventry City 2 (Rees, Gould) Bolton 2

1966-67 Bolton 1 Coventry City 1 (Machin) Coventry City 1 (Gould) Bolton 1

Division 1

1978-79 Bolton 0 Coventry City 0 Coventry City 2 (Wallace, Powell pen.) Bolton 2 (Worthington, McNab)

Eight matches played between the clubs. Six draws and one victory to each club. Goals scored: Coventry 11 Bolton 11





TALBOT

**A NEW NAME. AND A
NEW FUTURE FOR**

**ALPINE - AVENGER
SUNBEAM - HORIZON**

THE NEW SPIRIT OF MOTORING

HALF-TIME SCORES

A	Arsenal v. Middlesbrough	K	Birmingham v. Charlton
B	Brighton v. Ipswich	L	Cambridge Utd. v. Bristol Rovers
C	Bristol C. v. Stoke	M	Fulham v. Burnley
D	Crystal Palace v. Aston Villa	N	Newcastle Utd. v. Leicester
E	Everton v. Wolves	O	Notts County v. Luton
F	Leeds Utd. v. Liverpool	P	Oldham v. Preston
G	Manchester Utd. v. Derby Co.	Q	Shrewsbury v. Chelsea
H	Norwich v. Nottm. Forest	R	Swansea v. Q.P.R.
I	Southampton v. Spurs	S	Watford v. Cardiff
J	W.B.A. v. Manchester Utd.	T	West Ham v. Sunderland

SKY BLUE FACE



Two tickets for the next home game is the prize for this sky blue supporter if she presents herself to the main reception after today's game.

QUICK QUIZ

1. The first club to come out of the Third Division to win the League Championship.
2. Who was the former Arsenal goalkeeper who turned down a chance to join Manchester Utd when he was 15?
3. Who play at the Stadio di San Siro?
4. Which teams were involved in the first ever European Cup Final to go to a replay after drawing in Brussels in 1974?
5. Which is the only Football League club not to be a limited company?
6. The record for the shortest international career is held by which player?

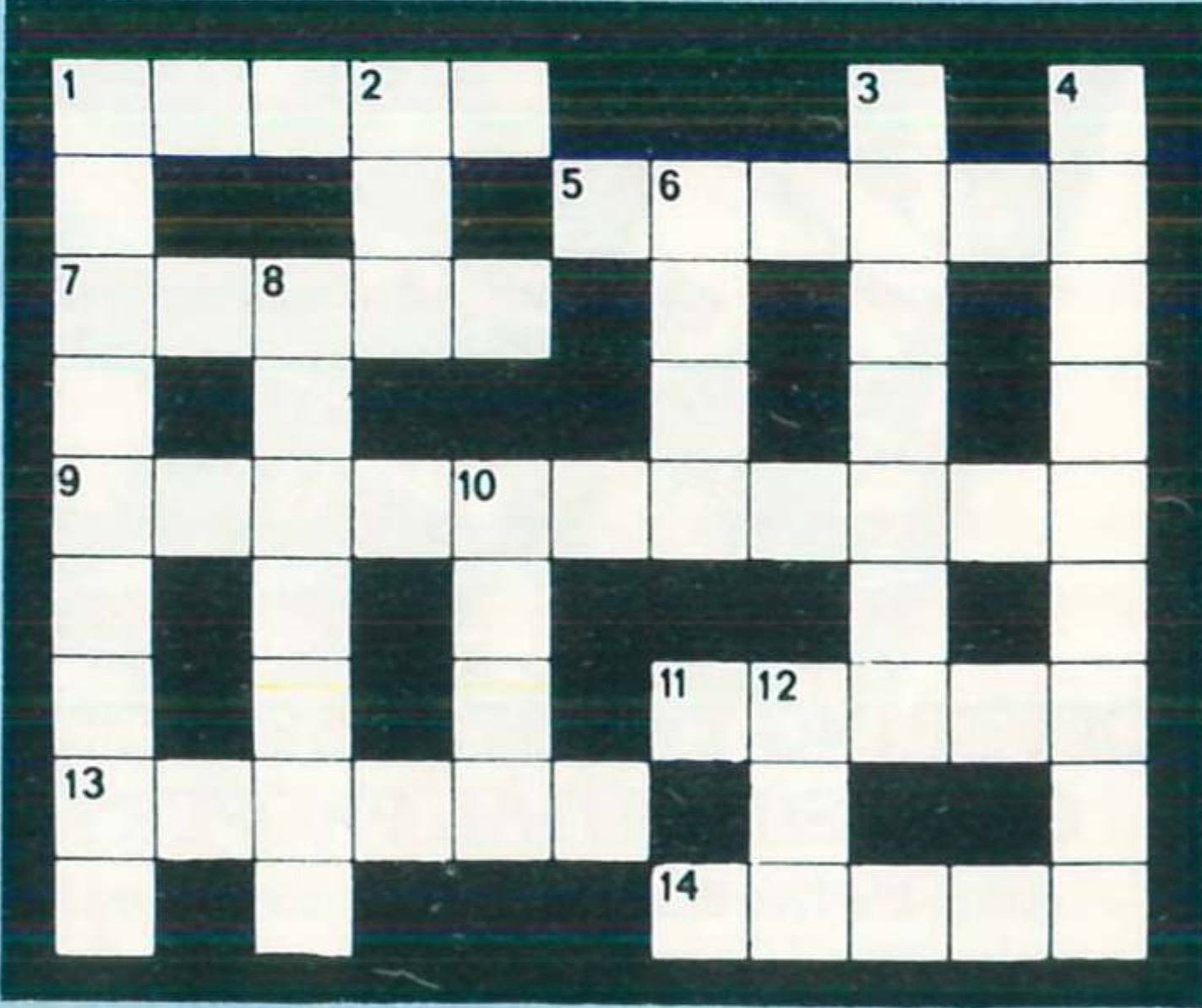
Answers on page 37 in Newsdesk

A TEST OF SKILL FOR THE SKY BLUE MEN OF THE MIDLANDS

Answer the crossword, complete the entry form and send it to:
"Crossword", Coventry City Football Club, Highfield Road, Coventry

- ACROSS**
1. Old Wolves and England forward: --- Pye (5)
 5. Top-scorer for Aberdeen for the last three season (6)
 7. Old Birmingham and England keeper (5)
 9. Ever-present for his club and top-scorer in the First Division last season (11)
 11. It tends to get tapped! (5)
 13. Manager who swept Shrewsbury to championship success last season (6)
 14. Striker with Coventry, Sheffield United, Newcastle and Stoke before going to Ghent (5)
- DOWN**
1. Key member of Spurs' 'double' side who died tragically, struck by lightning in 1964 (4,5)
 2. Against Everton in 1968 WBA's Dennis Clarke became the first FA Cup final one (3)
 3. Moscow side (7)
 4. Striker on West Ham's books through the 60's - scorer of 5 goals in 20 minutes against WBA (5,4)
 6. Sunderland or Slough (4)
 8. One of the Shaw brothers (7)
 10. Former WBA, Birmingham, Sheffield Wednesday and Scotland midfielder (4)
 12. Barcelona are based at --- Camp (3)

M & B is BEST



Name

Address

The sender of the first correct solution to be opened will receive an autographed football.

OPENING EARLY 1980

Sharniffs

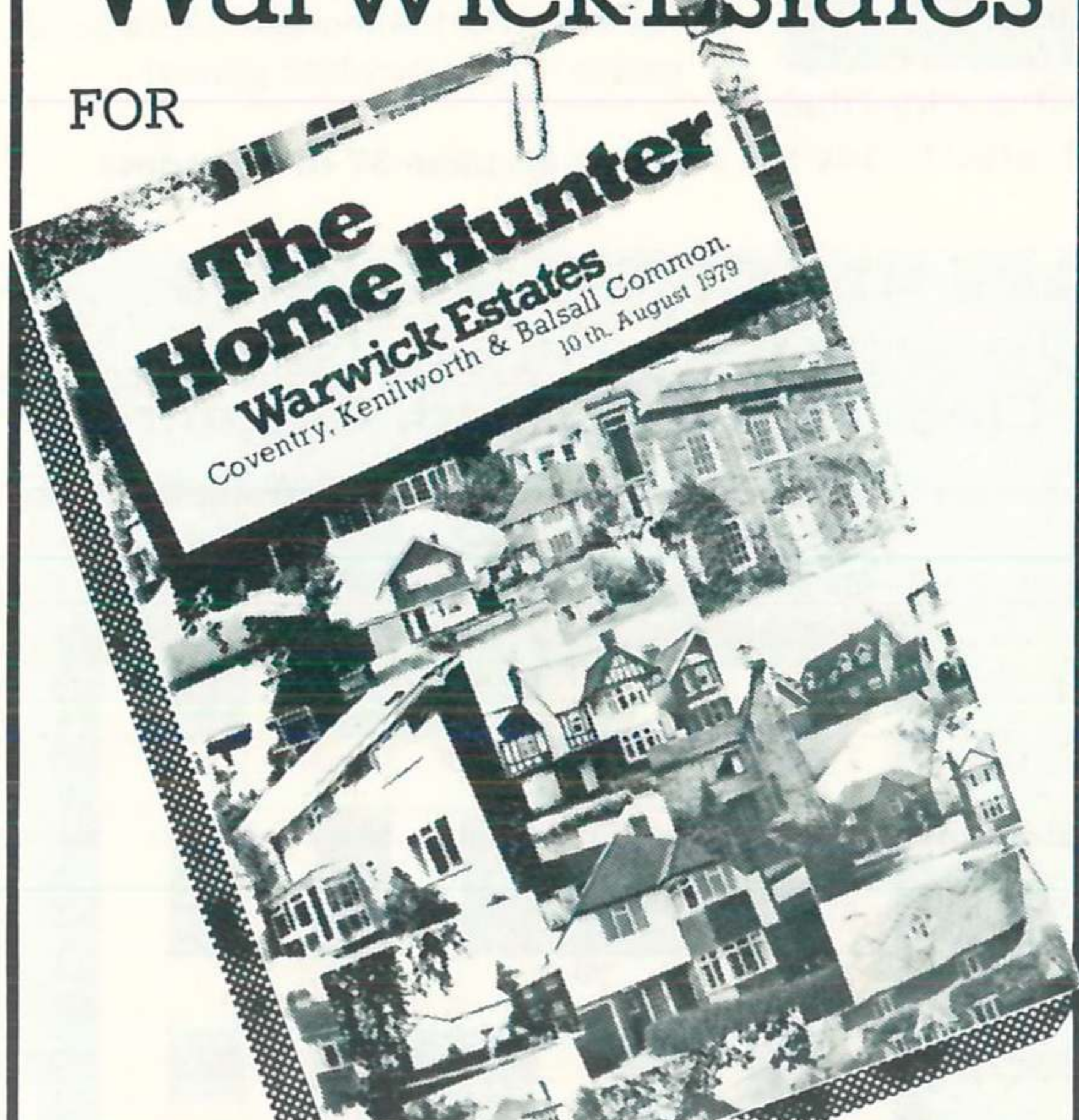
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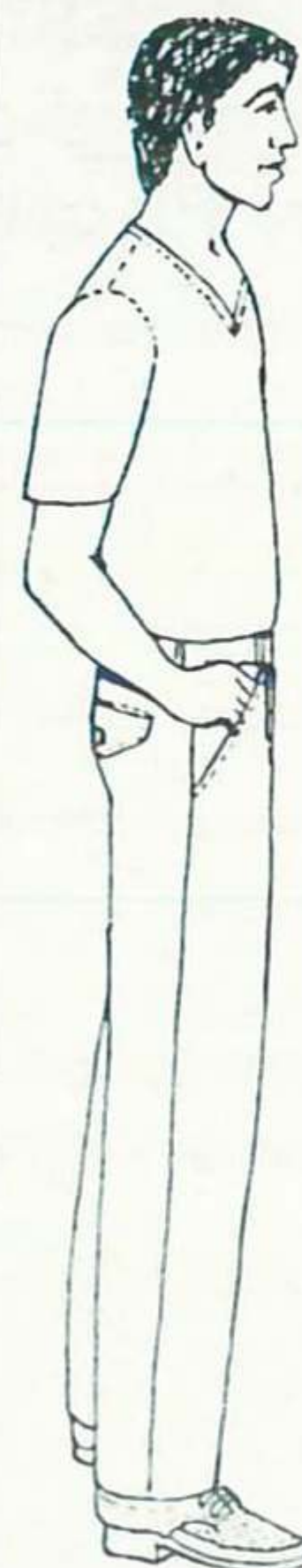
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RADIO SKY BLUE



CALLING

BY TOM WADROP

Hello there and welcome once again from Radio Sky Blue.

In these days of soaring inflation it's nice to be able to look back at what are known as the 'good old days', when a Pound was worth a Pound, and you could go to the cinema, take your girlfriend or wife, buy a bag of sweets and still have change from half-a-crown (12½p).

I was looking through a Coventry City programme the other day from a game between Coventry and Sheffield Wednesday, when an advert for British Railways caught my eye. It was for a football excursion to London to see England play Italy at White Hart Lane, and this is how it read. Excursion from Coventry to London Euston return including Luncheon and Supper on the train. Coach from station to the ground. Admission to the game. Coach to the West End for Tea and Reserved seats at the London Palladium for the Charlie Chester Show, and the All-in-Fare was just 44/9d (£2.24p).

The date was November 30th 1949.

DANA

Dana is just gaining her momentum again after her long illness and has a lot of work in the pipeline. She has a TV special up and coming on BBC TV and this will be going out probably in October. She is also scheduled to make an appearance on the Shirley Bassey Show, as well as having a new Sunday morning series

of programmes for BBC. Her new single has been released to coincide with all this and is reviewed later.

RECORD REVIEWS

AMERICAN HEARTS - BILLY OCEAN (GTO - GT 244)

Nothing has been heard of Billy since his single "RED LIGHT" that got to Number 2 in the National Charts, but here he is coming back strong with a new single that contains all the ingredients to make it a hit. The song is written by Bugatti and Musket who wrote among others "Woman in Love", for the 3 Degrees and the record is produced by Ken Gold who also produces The Real Thing. Couple this with the vocalistic talent of Billy and he must have a hit on his hands.

PAPER DOLLS - SCREAMS (Infinity - INF 109)

What can I say about this rec-

R.S.B. Quiz No. 4

1. What was Buddy Holly's only British No. 1?
2. Who was the Beatles drummer before Ringo Starr?
3. Which duo had a hit with 'In the Year 2525'?
4. Who won the 1967 Eurovision Song Contest, and with what song?
5. Find the name of this group, DDKLNNRRSYYYYY?

R.S.B. TOP TEN

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Just When I Needed You Most | Randy Vanwarmer |
| 2 Money | Flying Lizards |
| 3 Don't Bring Me Down | Electric Light Orchestra |
| 4 Cars | Gary Numan |
| 5 We Don't Talk Anymore | Cliff Richard |
| 6 Bang Bang | B.A. Robertson |
| 7 Lost In Music | Sister Sledge |
| 8 If I Said You Had A Beautiful Body | Bellamy Brothers |
| 9 Gangsters | Specials |
| 10 Angeleyes | Roxy Music |

TIP FOR THE TOP: Could It Be Magic - Dante's Inferno

ord? It's in clear vinyl and very forgettable. The sleeve has a cut out doll and the title and groups name can also be cut out and stuck wherever you think suitable. In fact I would be inclined to keep the sleeve and throw the record away.

I CAN'T GET OVER GETTING OVER YOU - DANA (GTO -GT 256)

A very different type of record by this very popular Irish girl. It doesn't have the same sort of instant appeal as her last single "The Girl is Back", although it is taken from that Album. Once again it is produced by Barry Blue. My opinion is, if you like Dana you will probably like this, myself, I will have to listen to it a few more times.

Well, that's all for this week, but don't forget to have a go at the Quiz. Send your answers to Radio Sky Blue, Coventry City F.C., Highfield Road, Coventry.

Answers to Quiz No. 3

1. Dave Clark 5
2. Lieutenant Pigeon
3. Everyone's gone to the moon
4. Terry Jacks
5. Carol King

DATE	OPPONENTS	ATT.	RES.	SCORE	LAST YEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	'12
Sat Aug 18	Stoke City	24,000	L	2-3		Blyth	Jones	McDonald	Gooding	Holton	Collier★	Hutchison	English	Ferguson	Powell (2)	Hunt	Blair
Tues Aug 21	Bristol City	19,293	W	3-1	W 3-2	Blyth	Jones	McDonald	Blair	Holton	Gillespie	Hutchison (1)	English (1)	Ferguson	Powell (1)	Hunt●	Hateley
Sat Aug 25	Nottingham Forest	23,025	L	1-4	L 0-3	Blyth	Jones●	McDonald	Blair	Holton	Gillespie	Hutchison	English (1)	Ferguson	Powell	Hunt*	Robertis
Wed Aug 29	F.L Cup (Ipswich)	13,217	W	1-0	W 4-1	Blyth	Roberts	McDonald (1)	Blair	Holton	Gillespie	Hutchison	English (1)	Ferguson	Gooding●	Hunt	Coop
Sat Sept 1	Norwich City	18,181	W	2-0	W 4-1	Murcott	Roberts	McDonald	Blair	Holton	Gillespie	Hutchison	English●	Ferguson (1)	Powell	Hunt	Hateley
Tue Sept 4	F.L Cup (Ipswich)	16,705	D	0-0	L 0-1	Sealey	Roberts	McDonald	Blair	Holton	Gillespie	Hutchison	English	Ferguson	Powell	Hunt	Bannister
Sat Sept 8	Liverpool	39,926	L	0-4	D 2-2	Sealey	Roberts	McDonald	Collier	Holton★	Gillespie	Hutchison★	English	Ferguson●	Powell	Hunt	Blair
Sat Sept 15	Bolton Wanderers				L 0-2												
Sat Sept 22	Manchester City				L 1-3												
Sat Sept 29	Tottenham Hotspur				W 3-2												
Sat Oct 6	Everton				L 0-5												
Tues Oct 9	Bristol City				L 0-4												
Sat Oct 13	Southampton				L 1-7												
Sat Oct 20	Brighton																
Sat Oct 27	W.B.A.																
Sat Nov 3	Stoke City				D 0-0												
Sat Nov 10	Leeds United				D 1-1												
Sat Nov 17	Wolverhampton W				D 2-2												
Sat Nov 24	Crystal Palace				D 1-1												
Sat Dec 1	Ipswich Town				W 2-1												
Sat Dec 8	Arsenal				W 4-3												
Sat Dec 15	Manchester United				D 1-1												
Fri Dec 21	Aston Villa				W 2-0												
Wed Dec 26	Derby County				D 0-0												
Sat Dec 29	Nottingham Forest				W 2-1												
Tues Jan 1	Middlesbrough				L 0-1												
Sat Jan 5	F.A. Cup (3)				D 0-0												
Sat Jan 12	Norwich City				W 4-0												
Sat Jan 19	Liverpool				L 1-3												
Sat Jan 26	F.A. Cup (4)				D 3-3												
Sat Feb 2	Bolton Wanderers				L 0-1												
Sat Feb 9	Manchester City				W 3-0												
Sat Feb 16	Tottenham Hotspur				D 1-1												
Sat Feb 23	Southampton				W 4-0												
Sat Mar 1	Brighton				L 1-3												
Sat Mar 8	W.B.A.				D 3-3												
Sat Mar 15	Everton				L 0-1												
Sat Mar 22	Leeds United				W 3-0												
Sat Mar 29	Wolverhampton W				D 1-1												
Tues Apr 1	Aston Villa				W 2-1												
Sat Apr 5	Middlesbrough				W 4-2												
Mon Apr 7	Derby County				D 1-1												
Sat Apr 12	Ipswich Town				D 0-0												
Sat Apr 19	Crystal Palace				D 1-1												
Sat Apr 26	Manchester United				D 0-0												
Sat May 3	Arsenal				D 1-1												

● Substituted * Booked ■ Sent-off Goal scorers in **Bold**. Goals in brackets.

facts & figures

FIRST DIVISION 1979/80

HOME	AWAY											
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottm F.	5	2	1	0	5	1	2	0	0	6	1	9
Man U.	5	2	0	0	4	1	1	2	0	4	1	8
Middlesbro	5	2	1	0	5	1	1	0	1	4	3	7
Norwich	5	2	0	0	6	1	1	0	2	4	5	6
C. Palace ...	5	1	1	0	4	0	0	3	0	2	2	6
Ipswich	5	2	0	1	4	2	1	0	1	2	3	6
Southp'ton	5	1	1	0	4	3	1	1	1	2	2	6
Liverpool	4	2	1	0	7	1	0	0	1	2	3	5
Wolves	4	1	1	0	4	1	1	0	1	1	2	5
Bristol C.	5	1	1	0	4	2	1	0	2	3	4	5
Leeds U.	5	1	1	0	3	1	0	2	1	3	4	5
Bolton	5	1	2	0	3	2	0	1	1	1	3	5
Everton	5	0	1	1	3	5	2	0	1	4	4	5
Arsenal	5	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	7	4	4
Stoke City ...	5	2	0	1	8	6	0	0	2	1	4	4
Coventry ...	5	2	0	0	5	1	0	0	3	3	11	4
Aston Villa ...	5	1	0	2	2	6	0	2	0	2	2	4
Tottenham ...	5	2	0	1	5	5	0	0	2	1	7	4
Man C.	5	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	2	1	5	3
Derby	5	1	0	2	3	4	0	1	1	0	4	3
Brighton	5	1	0	1	3	5	0	0	3	4	7	2
W.B.A.	5	0	1	1	1	5	0	1	2	1	5	2

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES 1979/80

	Lge	Gls	L.C.	Gls
Blyth	3	-	1	-
Jones	3	-	-	-
McDonald	5	1	2	-
Gooding	1	-	1	-
Holton	5	-	2	-
Collier	2	-	-	-
Hutchison	5	1	2	-
English	5	2	2	1
Ferguson	5	1	2	-
Powell	5	3 (2p)	2	-
Hunt	5	-	2	-
Blair	3 (1)	-	2	-
Gillespie	4	-	2	-
Hateley	(2)	-	-	-
Roberts	2 (1)	-	2	-
Coop	-	-	(1)	-
Murcott	1	-	-	-
Sealey	1	-	1	-

Appearances as substitute in brackets

CENTRAL LEAGUE APPEARANCES 1979/80

	Apps	Gls			
Sealey	4	-	Bannister	3	-
Roberts	1	-	Haywood	1 (1)	1
Osgood	4	1	Gooding	2	2
Phillips	4	1	Jacobs	1	-
Dyson	3	-	Barnes	3	-
Gillespie	1	-	Coop	2	-
Nardiello	3	1	Collier	2	-
Whitton	3 (1)	1	Jones	1	-
Hateley	2	3	Wallace	1	-
Thomas	3	-	Russell	(1)	-

(Appearances as substitute in brackets)

CENTRAL LEAGUE TABLE 1979/80

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burnley	3	3	0	0	6	1	6
W.B.A.	3	2	1	0	10	3	5
Coventry City	3	2	1	0	9	5	5
Blackpool	3	2	0	1	5	2	4
Liverpool	3	2	0	1	7	4	4
Manchester U.	3	1	2	0	8	5	4
Sheffield W.	3	2	0	1	6	6	4
Aston Villa	2	1	1	0	4	2	3
Nottm Forest	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Everton	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Manchester C.	3	0	3	0	1	1	3
Preston N.E.	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Leeds U.	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Blackburn	3	1	0	2	6	7	2
Newcastle U.	3	0	2	1	1	3	2
Sheffield U.	3	1	0	2	5	7	2
Wolves	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Huddersfield	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Bury	3	0	1	2	1	7	1
Bolton	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Stoke City	2	0	0	2	3	7	0
Derby County	3	0	0	3	1	7	0

HIT MEN (including cups)

6 Sunderland (Arsenal), Crooks (Stoke);
5 Flanagan (Crystal Pal.), Johnson (Liverpool);
4 Stapleton (Arsenal), Ward (Brighton), Ritchie (Bristol C.), Hoddle (Spurs);
3 Brady (Arsenal), Maybank (Brighton), Swindlehurst (Crystal Pal.), Dalglish (Liverpool), Coppel (Man. Utd.), Thomas (Man. Utd.), Reeves (Norwich), Fashanu (Norwich), Woodcock (Nottm. For.), Birtles (Nottm. For.), Boyer (Southampton), English (Coventry C.), Powell (Coventry C.).

captains comments

DRAWN AWAY AGAIN

I was a wee bit disappointed with our supporters' attitude during the League Cup second leg match against Ipswich.



Maybe, like us, they are not used to two leg matches. We thought we had done well to hold Ipswich to a goalless draw to go through to the next round, and couldn't understand the boos and slow handclaps.

The Liverpool fans would have been cheering their team in similar circumstances. We put ourselves under a bit of pressure by beating Ipswich 1-0 in the first leg, because then we felt we couldn't attack with our usual freedom in case they sneaked an equaliser.

Maybe if we had drawn 0-0 at Ipswich we would have attacked them more at Highfield Road to get the victory we needed.

No need to tell you that the draw went against us again. I reckon they put a tennis ball in with the other balls to make the draw so that we always come out second.

When Joyce told us the draw as we came off from training, I thought that like her cooking, it was a joke.

Don't run away with the idea however that we have given up the ghost just because we drew West Brom away. They are not the same side this year without Regis and Cunningham and the lads are looking forward to playing them.

Their record against us is so good that it will take some maintaining and we could just beat them to gain some revenge for last season.

Having now played Forest and Liverpool away, it is obvious to us that they will be the only teams around at the top next May. I fancy Liverpool after the way they played against us.

They kept up a non-stop onslaught. Any team which gets anything from Anfield this season will think it's Christmas.

I was fortunate to win the man of the match award from the match sponsors and was presented with a stereo-radio cassette. David Johnson received the award in the Liverpool side.



Actually it was quite embarrassing for me just before the match. I had asked Kenny Dalglish for an autographed Liverpool jersey and I had to walk through the fans with the red shirt draped over my arm. They must have thought I had changed sides.

Cheerio, hope to see you in your thousands at The Hawthorns for the League Cup match.

Tommy Hutchison



PROGRAMME
PPLUS

Husband Supporter?

Like the adverts I fell in the front door, put the kettle on and flopped into the chair throwing off my shoes, feeling as if I had been dragged through a hedge backwards. Had I fought my way through Tesco's? Been battered through the West End shops? No, I had returned from my first Saturday Match, feelings very mixed: and I had lost him, or he had lost me, either by accident or manoeuvre.

But now relaxing with a cuppa', on reflection, I have to chuckle. What length of planning I had to put into getting Saturday afternoon chores all out of the way just to go with my beloved and show my unflinching understanding by lending an arm for his fragile condition of a twisted ankle.

I drove towards the game but had to park about two miles away. The whole world seemed to be moving towards a central 'wonder' like in 'Close Encounters.' We shuffled towards the ground: his excitement masked his pain, he just lent on me like a ton of bricks. We queued for miles (I will never complain at Tesco's again!). Oh, the buzz of excitement, youngsters with their rattles, marvellous Policemen with hands behind their back, it was all so new; even in dull old me, something stirred. Coachloads of the opposition arrived amid shouts from neighbours, the text of which I shall not repeat.

Then his friends came, seemingly in better humour than us but thankfully took his weight off me. Why do they talk so quietly, and look at me furtively like schoolboys? Anyway, the queue surged forward, tickets were bought and I found myself carried along, and alone,

amongst hoardes of high spirited men. I am sure if he had had two good legs that wouldn't have happened. Slightly scared, I brushed away the tears of frustration, perhaps I would find him later. But the game started and I was hemmed in. Why was I born so short? The 'Amazons' came out, to thunderous applause and stamping — even pop stars don't get that sort of adoration. I craned my neck but by the time I could see them they were too far away for my poor eyes, next time, binocular.

Apparently, everyone around me was certain 'our' team would win (thank God, I was luckily at the right end) and they kept up a running commentary, slightly more colourful than the BBC, but I knew what was going on even though I only caught a few glimpses of actual play. The excitement was unbearable at first, such a lot of energy and verbal expression! I got more apologies for being bumped than ever I get in the high street (perhaps it was also for the language) I couldn't keep a straight face and enjoyed the feeling of being 'all for' a particular team. But apparently, 'we' were not doing so well as hoped, and our praises turned to insults. Men are so fickle. It ended with a no score draw which I thought was 'nice' for both sides. But release from pent up emotions was not possible without a goal and grumbles and criticism grew as I was carried out by the crowd. I looked for 'him', but it was impossible. There was a bit of a 'shuffle' between fans outside the club which made myself and others a bit nervous, (luckily there were enough Police about to contain it). Why do they do that? How selfish to try to spoil

something which so many thousands of people from all walks of life obviously enjoy.

I got to the car and waited. It had been exciting, in fact what else could compare? The feeling is contagious and apparently, once you support a team you even stand by their failures. If only that loyalty could be harnessed into other walks of life.

I waited in the car, and waited — after forty minutes I got out and caught a bus back.

He eventually arrived home at about seven o'clock with his 'mates'. A lack of score and the pain in his foot had required medicinal lubrication. "Did you get home alright?" "Wherever did you get to?" It did not matter. We were both home; for him, an enjoyable day and for me a very different one. Tonight he will have to rest his foot, so an evening in together again. I certainly won't mind watching the match again on TV, I didn't see very much the first time (I should have eaten my greens and gained those few essential inches).

Perhaps a womens place after all is in the home (or up the shops, in the launderette, doing the garden, next to the overn, etcetera, etcetera...)

Gentleman, I await your views and stories. Any story which makes me laugh gets £2.50 the price of a good seat. Humour please. I leave straight facts and serious views on football to the experts.

*Diana
Brigg*



Bob Latchford, here seen scoring England's third goal against Denmark could lose his place to Trevor Francis.

by COLIN BENSON

England returned from their summer tour of Europe in a cheerfully optimistic frame of mind. For the 3-0 defeat of Bulgaria in the heat of Sofia had not only given their European Championship hopes a shot in the arm, it had also confirmed England's re-emergence as a soccer power.

This victory put Ron Greenwood's side on top of Group 1 in a seemingly commanding position, for three of their remaining fixtures are at home, with the one away game to be played at Windsor Park Belfast, a ground on which England have a good record.

Now the England squad are preparing for the next stage, the home game with Denmark at Wembley on Wednesday September 12th. I put it to manager Ron Greenwood that there might be a danger of the media overplaying this game as a mere formality.

The Best

His reply made it clear that the England party would not be on that wavelength. "First and foremost we think the reverse," he said.

"I think that this will be a very difficult game. I was only speaking to Danny Blanchflower the Northern Ireland team manager about it the other day, and we both agreed that Denmark are the best side in the section besides England."

ENGLAND FACE FREESCORING DANES

The England boss thinks that the Wembley crowd will be pleasantly surprised by the quality of the Danes. For this side is not a bunch of amateurs, indeed over half the players are professionals with clubs in Spain, Belgium and West Germany.

Class Striker

It was Elkjaer who devastated Northern Ireland last June with a hat-trick in Denmark's 4-0 victory in Copenhagen, and there is no doubt that the home defence will have to keep a tight reign on him.

Ron Greenwood points out.

GROUP 1 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
ENGLAND	4	3	1	0	12	4	7
N. IRELAND	6	3	1	2	6	9	7
Rep. IRELAND	5	1	3	1	6	5	5
DENMARK	6	1	2	3	13	13	4
BULGARIA	5	1	1	3	3	9	3

"Their strength is going forward".— A fact born out by their tally of 13 goals in six European Championship games. The goals against column, (13) shows where the Danes are vulnerable.

With England also committed to a positive formula, this game promises to be as exciting as the 4-3 victory in Copenhagen. Ron Greenwood has always believed that football is about creating space and not giving the ball away. In Vienna last June this point was brought home in a thrilling game which England lost 4-3 to Austria.

Denmark meanwhile eagerly await the chance to play at Wembley, a platform that has the capability of stimulating visiting performers to give of their best. This is something England just have to learn to live with.



Orient's John Chiedozie seen here against Leicester City.



BRIAN
GLANVILLE
WRITES

New Players from AFRICA

Out of Africa, said the Roman author, Pliny, always something new. Or, so far as football is concerned someone new, a new footballer, whether he be Eusebio, of the ferocious right foot, Mario Coluna, the 1966 Portuguese World Cup captain, Marius Tresor, the superb French World Cup sweeper of 1978, Eugene N'Jo Lea, who became President of the French Players' Union, and nearly played Southern League football for Gravesend and Northfleet down to little John Chiedozie, who plays outside-right for the Orient.

The odd thing, is that now the ban on foreign players has been lifted clubs are not scouring Africa for talent, as the Portuguese and French

have done with such immense profit. The fashion, first, was to go and buy Argentinians, which made sense up to a point. Spurs picked up Villa and, above all, Ardiles for about half the fees such players would have commanded over here, while Alejandro Sabella was a bargain for Sheffield United; and, as we have seen, an investment.

Next, the fashion was for Yugoslavs; Manchester City even signed Stepanovic, a central defender, from a Bundesliga club, deciding in

advance to make him captain, though they knew he had no English. Middlesbrough, Southampton, West Bromwich Albion and Notts County are other clubs which have recruited Yugoslavs. The prices have been substantially less than they would have had to pay for an Argentinian, let alone a British player, yet they are large indeed by comparison with what they would have had to pay for an African.

This is partly because African players tend, when they are truly gifted – as so many of them are – to

be jewels in a tawdry setting. African football can and does produce marvellous footballers by the score. What it cannot seemingly do is to provide the context in which they can flourish. Perhaps Eusebio would have become a footballer of global renown had he stayed in his native city of Lourenco Marques in Mozambique – a city which also produced the muscular Coluna – but I tend to doubt it. True, he had barely joined Benfica of Lisbon when he took Paris by storm in an international tournament, then dazzled the Uruguayans in the Intercontinental Cup; which suggests that Benfica did not have much to do with his development. But they did provide him with a stage.

Things haven't been quite so good for Portuguese football since the collapse of their Empire. Players such as Eusebio, Coluna and the Angolan, Jordano, are no longer Portuguese nationals, but foreigners. The French, however, seem happily able to have the best of both worlds. Their empire has long since crumbled away – not nearly as much of it exists as does our Commonwealth – but they have been much more resourceful in exploiting its footballing talents. The French League just would not be the same without its African players; Gerard Janvion, right-back for France and Saint Etienne, Zimako, the Saint Etienne striker, Tresor, who came from Guadeloupe to Corsica, and now plays for Marseille, Marguerite, the powerful centre-forward of Nimes.

You will have noticed that these players come not from a single country but from all over Africa. Indeed, one is reminded of the sour old joke about South America; it is the Continent of tomorrow, but tomorrow is always a fiesta. So it is with the Africans, forever just about to break through to establish parity with the Europeans and South Americans but never quite managing to do it.

At the start of this season, another enormously gifted French African left the League to go home; Laurent Pokou, from the Ivory Coast, who had been playing for Rennes. Look at the line-up of the New England Tea Men, and you will see in attack the name of another centre-forward from Africa, the tall and slender Salif Keita, who cut his teeth in France with Saint Etienne, some years ago. His debut, on arrival from torrid Mali, was made in thick mud; yet it was a brilliant one.

As for Eugene N'Jo Lea, a qualified lawyer, a diplomat who was briefly his country's representative here, I remember bringing him together with Billy Lane, the old Spurs centre-forward and Brighton manager, then working in the Southern League. No League club could sign him while he was in England, though he was much more interested in playing than making money. Billy Lane tried, but failed; it would have been interesting.



Former Eighth Army Soldiers who chance to read these notes may remember a splendid Soudanese called Mohamed El Guindi, a lithe inside-forward who greatly impressed the troops during the North African campaign. Huddersfield Town, then a First Division club, had the initiative to bring him and a fellow footballer to England, but Yorkshire was too far a cry from the Soudan, and both of them went quickly home. Since then, few British clubs have been as enterprising.

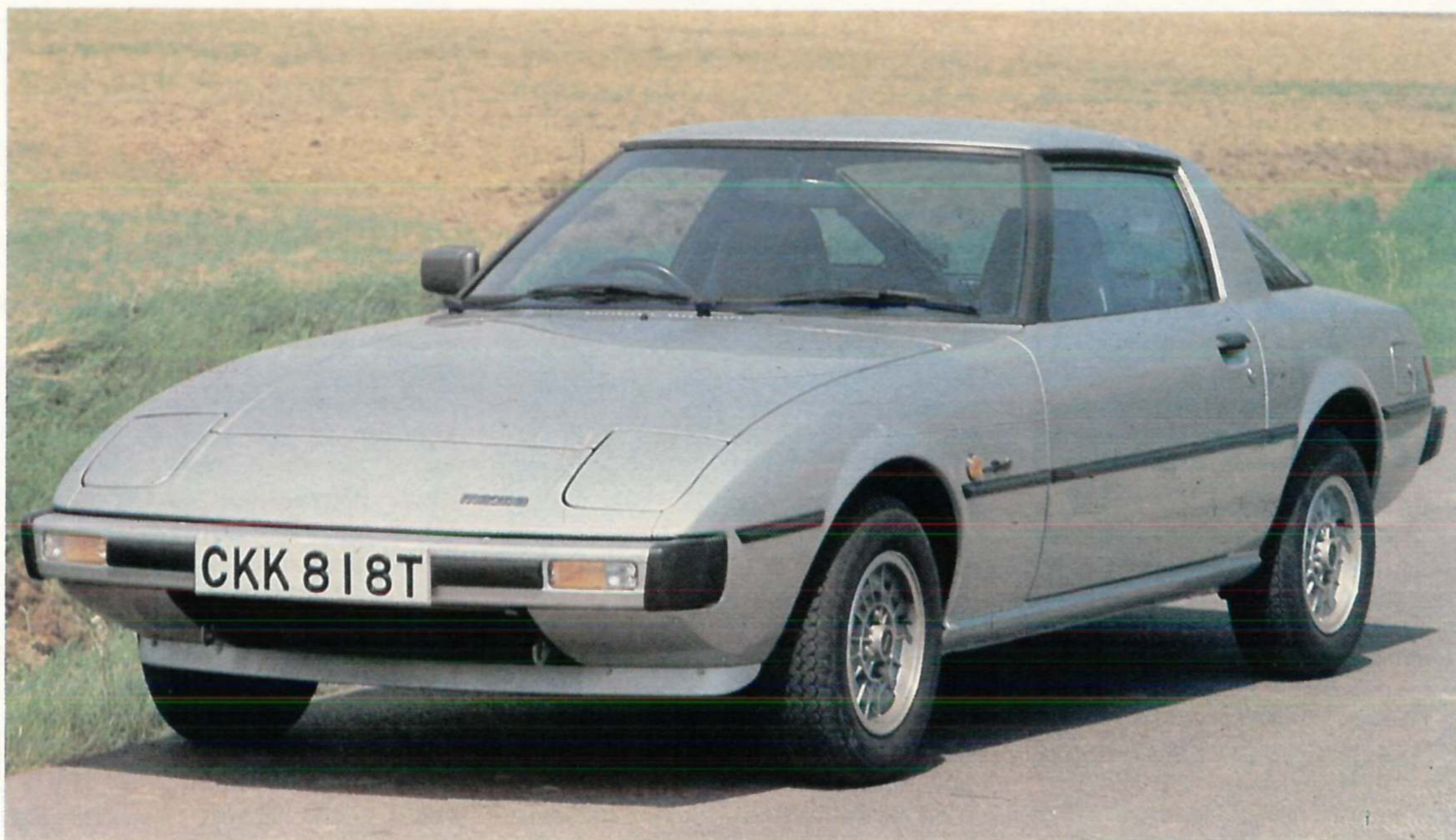
And yet one of the most common problems with a foreign player, that of language, would not exist for players from the Commonwealth, from Nigeria or the always buoyant Ghana; just as it does not exist for players from the Francophone, French speaking, African countries, when they go to play in France.

Of course, it would cost money to get out to Africa and look at players; yet when transfer fees have reached such ludicrous, vertiginous heights, what of that? The ultimate savings would surely be enormous. Moreover, black players actually born in this country have now very firmly knocked on the head all those old wives', or old coaches', tales about black players not having what it takes to succeed over here. Viv Anderson, Laurie Cunningham and their like have surely nailed the lie.

There have, it is true, been disappointments. West Ham United tried hard, with indifferent success. I thought for some time that little Ade Coker, a centre-forward with delightful touches, born in Nigeria, might break through, but the game here was too robust for him, and he found his way to the States. It does not seem too robust, however, for the equally tiny John Chiedozie, a Nigerian refugee. The talent is there, and waiting.



Ardiles – the first import, signed by Spurs



A sports car used to be a British two-seater with a loud exhaust, uncertain reliability and certain persuasive power with passing females. Today's permissive society means you are probably better off with a large van for your wheeled sport, but that has not stopped the Japanese from attacking the sports car market with success.

That means America. Over 90 per cent of MG production ends up over there, for the Americans always loved an MG, Triumph, or a Jaguar.

They still take them in unbelievable numbers, but not with quite the same enthusiasm for the old-fashioned since Datsun produced the Z-car series. These six-cylinder machines were a diabolically clever blend between an overhead camshaft version of the Austin Healey inline six-cylinder engine and styling of the same appeal as a shrunken E-type Jaguar.

Naturally, it all cost the customer less than expected and the seventies sports market US-style was dominated by first the 240Z (2.4 litres), then 260 and 280, both offering the refinement of an extra two occasional rear seats in 2+2 guise, just as Jaguar and MG had done with their coupes.

Now Datsun is fighting hard against a new enemy in the USA, and even the fabled West German Porsche company (with their cheaper 924, four cylinder model) are looking concerned.

The cause of all the trouble is a brand new arrival from Mazda, or Toyo Koygo as they are known at

★ **AH SO!** ★
VERY
CLEVER
JAPANESE
SPORTS CAR

home in Japan. I have been driving this roofed sports car — the rotary-engined RX-7 — in the 2+2 form it will be offered in Britain. I can see why everyone soon stopped joking about Mazda and light bulbs!

In the USA the 2-seater RX-7 has taken the market by storm and is currently just outselling Datsun's 280Z. In fact, there have been waiting lists, but the car is cheap — here it will be £8500 in round figures. What has it got you cannot buy anywhere else?

Unique engine

Since 1961 Mazda have been working flat out on the development of the single and twin rotor engine, working under a licence granted by Audi NSU who held the patented work on this subject by Dr. Felix Wankel of West Germany.

The RX-7's twin rotor motor provides nearly 120 mph from its 2.3 litres and such smooth acceleration, which has a charm all of its own. According to government fuel tests it'll deliver around 18.2 mpg in town and 27.1 mpg at a constant 75 mph.

Although it is credited with only 105 bhp (little more than a current Cortina) the RX-7 is fast because of its sleek and low bodyshape. It is not particularly light at over 2300 lbs, but both paint, trim and panel fit reflect an air of mass-produced quality.

Only 400 of these Mazdas will be delivered to Britain this year, but all come complete with a slick five speed gearbox; stereo radio and cassette player with four speakers; laminated windscreen and tinted glass; alloy sports wheels; recirculating ball steering with variable ratio for easier parking and transistorised — no maintenance ignition.

On the road the front engine — set well back in the chassis and a lot smaller than an ordinary 2.3 litre would be — has good manners and allows the conventional strut front suspension to work well.

At the rear the live back axle is heavily restrained by location rods and linkages, so the car has a taut, sporting, feel in high speed cornering.

The brakes, with ventilated discs at the front and drums aft, are also very efficient.

A very interesting car that's just made for the man who likes something really different. Very clever these Japanese



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How hard?

Just how hard is it then, for a young aspiring player to make the grade in the top flight? To find the answer we spoke to Chris Gieler, Queens Park Rangers Youth Development Officer.

"I do not think it is hard", he said quite firmly, "It is just a question of those who want to make it, will, by their own desire and application."

"If a boy has not got these qualities, he will find it very hard. But I think if a lad comes into the game wanting to succeed and is prepared to work at it, he has a fair chance, for the Coaches will improve his technique."

Quality

To have reached the position of being offered an apprenticeship with a professional club, the youngster must have already shown that he has got quality and the potential to go all the way. The difficult thing is developing that potential so that it eventually realises its fulfillment.

Chris Gieler takes up the story. "There is a certain myth about the failure rate and the toughness of the profession. I think it is difficult to a certain extent, but it is only as difficult as the individual wants to make it.

"Of course the boys are under pressure from the off. Most of them have been very successful as school-boys. They have won honours and always been the kingpins at their school. When they come here they suddenly find themselves on the bottom rung, just one of the pack, and they have to fight their way out to become someone. The pressures are colossal."

Routine

A normal routine for an apprentice footballer, is to start work at 9.15 a.m. by getting all the kit ready for the senior players. They then train between 10.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. when it is time to clear up all

the dirty gear and the dressing rooms.

After a meal provided by the club it is back to the stadium to carry out menial tasks, like cleaning boots and footballs and maybe do an extra stint of work on their basic skills.

Queens Park Rangers apprentice Mark O'Conner, in his first few weeks of training, spells out the major difference he has found since leaving school: "You are always on trial to prove yourself in training so that you will get in the team. The competition is much harder because you are up against good players."

Tired

Young Welshman Ievan John reflected on the physical strain when he said: "You need a lot more rest. When I get home I just want to go to bed."

The clubs are of course aware of their responsibility and many like Q.P.R. insist that their young players attend a technical college to learn another trade.

But as Chris Gieler says: "If a boy has a lot of natural ability, knowledge of the game, awareness, pace and control then his ability should carry him through."



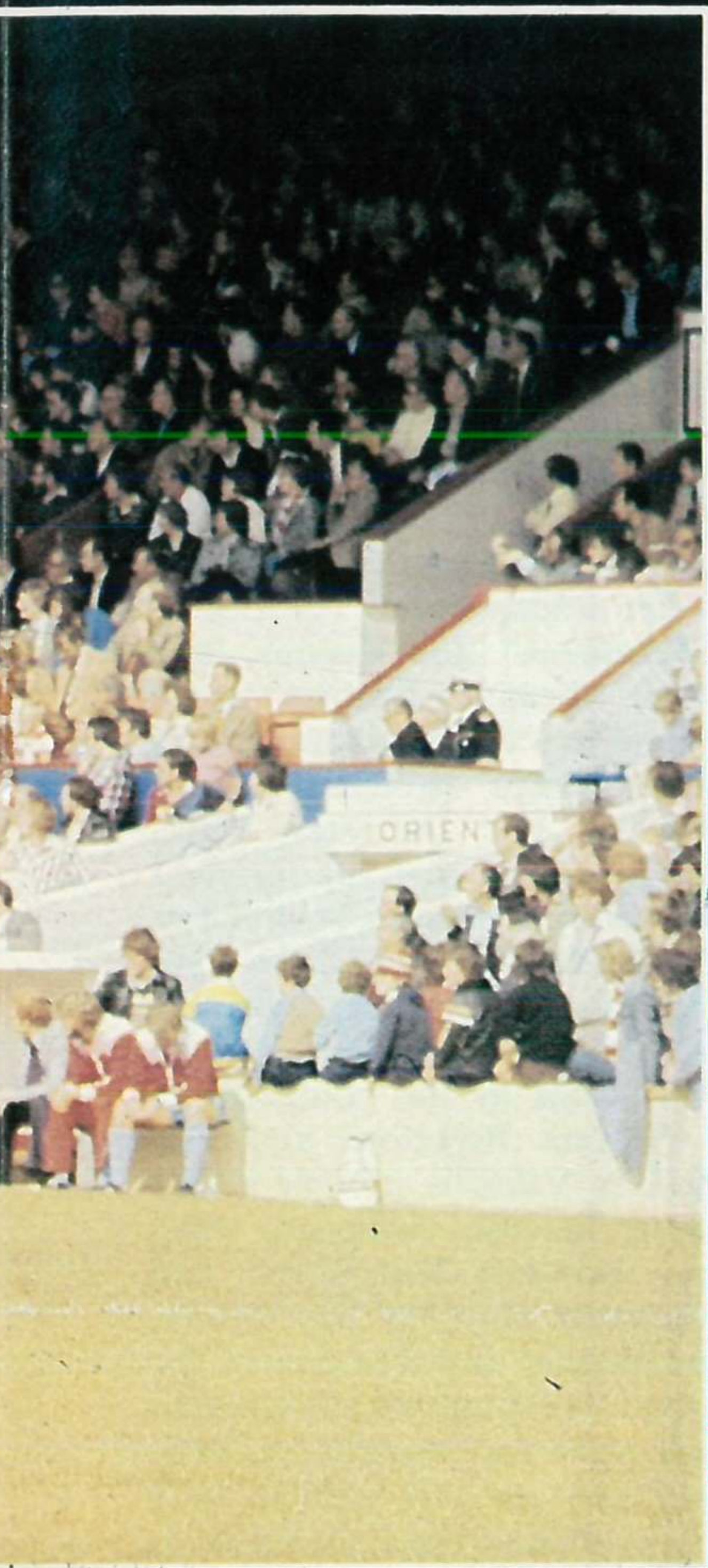
John Jackson (now with Millwall)

PICTURE PROFILE

A pictorial review of your favourite
players throughout the World of soccer.



Paul Price (Luton)



Dave Webb (Derby)



Action from last season's European Cup Winners Cup Final. Here Thomas Allofs scores for Fortuna Dusseldorf.

The European Cup Winners Cup

by Leslie Vernon

Following in the footsteps of the success of the European Cup, the UEFA hierarchy were determined to introduce other competitions for club sides complementary to the premier one. Someone hit on the bright, fairly obvious idea, that if there is a tournament for all the champions, why not another for the Cup winners? Thus the European Cup Winners Cup, known in several countries as the "Recopa", was initially launched in 1960.

Only ten teams entered for the first tournament, including Rangers, who incidentally beat Borussia Moenchengladbach 11-0 (!) on aggregate in the quarter-final. They also ko'd Wolves in the semis, but lost to Fiorentina in a two-legged Final 4-1 on aggregate.

Since then, a one-match Final on neutral territory has been the custom, not always a happy solution as witnessed by some very poor attendances.

I remember sitting in a deserted stadium in Basle in 1975, watching Dynamo Kiev thrash Ferencvaros of Hungary, won-

dering what on earth these two Eastern European teams were doing in this sleepy little Swiss town.

By the middle sixties, there was a full compliment of entries, although winning this trophy has never attained the same aura of glory as capturing the Champions Cup does.

The trouble has been, and still is, that the importance of the domestic Cup competition differs vastly from country to country. In England, if an ex-player dies at the age of 87, it is mentioned in his obituary that he played in a Cup Final some sixty years earlier. On the other hand, in Hungary, the Cup competition was contested by reserve teams for years, and this season, the most popular club, Ferencvaros, lost the Final, some say deliberately, 1-0 against a provincial side Raba Győr in front of a meagre 6,000 crowd. Why deliberately? Because they would rather see Raba in Europe than fourth-placed arch-rivals, Vasas!

A few seasons back, when Standard Liege reached the Belgian Cup Final, they serious-

ly considered fielding their second eleven, because they regarded playing in the UEFA Cup a better financial proposition than appearing in the "Recopa".

Consequently, the present composition of the Cup Winners Cup contains teams from countries where the domestic tournament is a real attraction (Spain, W.Germany, France, England, etc.), where it is merely regarded as an unimportant "qualifying tournament" for Europe, and where beaten finalists come second to a double-winning team (the Champs naturally opt to play in the European Cup). Small wonder that the standard of the contenders is regarded as the weakest of the three well-established tourneys, although this year, there are some excellent teams in the competition.

Holders Barcelona and Cup winners Valencia provide a very strong Spanish challenge, when one considers that Krankl and Simonsen play for the former, and Bonhof and Kempes for the latter! The Cup was the consolation prize for Juventus in Italy, and they are still able to field the nucleus of the Italian national team — Bettenga, Causio, Zoff and Tardelli. Fortuna Dusseldorf, losers of an exhilarating Final last year in Berne, are back again, and their fellow Germans from the East, Magdeburg, are previous winners of this trophy.

At the time of writing, Rangers still have to beat Lillestroem of Norway in the Preliminary Round to qualify for a clash with Dusseldorf, but I have no doubt that they will eventually meet the Bundesliga club in what's regarded as the tie of the First Round.

Arsenal will have an easier task against Fenerbahce of Turkey, a country where goals are regarded as rare gifts from heaven — the average haul in the League is the lowest in Europe.

Wrexham will face Magdeburg, and Cliftonville will play the French Cup winners, Nantes, so both start as outsiders. The Cup Winners Cup might be second best, but it is still a colourful, lucrative competition.

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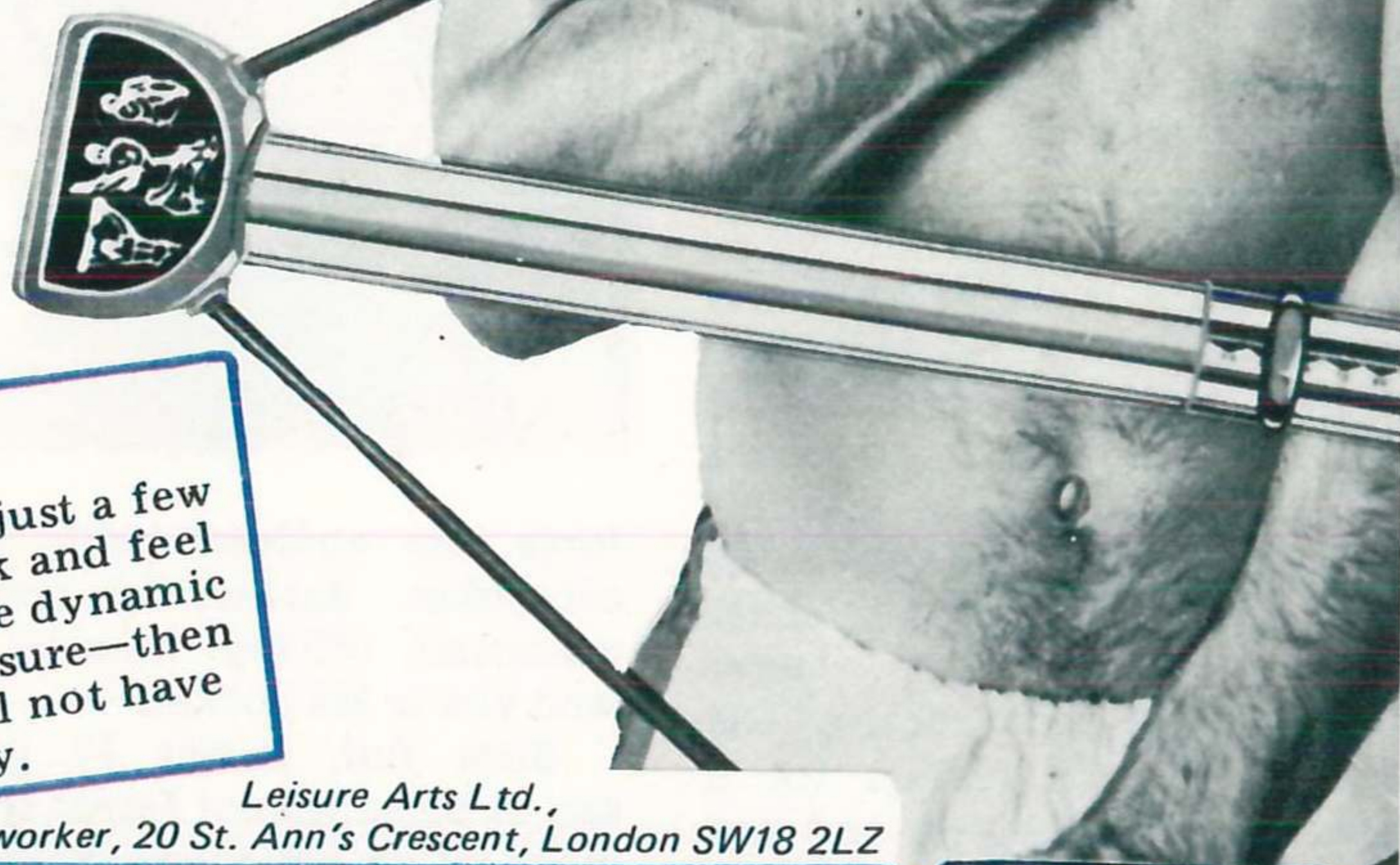
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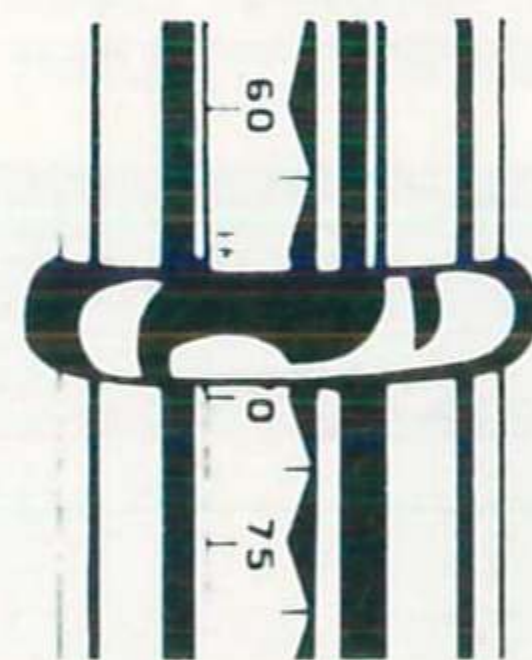
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Record Roundup

Jasper Carrott

Jasper Carrott, described by The Sun as "the thinking, drinking man's comic", first rose to national prominence in 1975 when his single 'Funky Moped' (backed with the BBC banned 'Magic Roundabout') hit the top five. His first album **JASPER CARROTT RABBITS ON AND ON AND ON** soon reached the top ten.

In 1976 while Jasper was performing at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford, he was "discovered" for the masses by LWT's programme director Michael Grade, and given his own six part television series 'An Audience With Jasper Carrott'. The series received the highest JICTAR ratings for a new show of the year and was shown all over the ITV network.

Said the Daily Mail of Carrott's comedy "He's a potential British Woody Allen. He doesn't



force the audience with one-off jokes. Rather, he uses a whimsical off-key humour to land you in his pocket."

Born Bob Davies 32 years ago in Birmingham, Jasper spent much of his childhood playtime listening to albums by American comedians such as Tom Lehrer and Bob Newhart — both humorous story tellers rather than vaudevillian comics.

He was nicknamed Jasper when he was nine years old and added the last name of Carrott at sixteen. He left grammar school and did an assortment of jobs including selling carpets, cleaning windows and being a kitchen porter.

He learned to play guitar and opened up The Boggery, a folk club in Solihull. Carrott compered, booked bands and performed at the club and soon became so popular that he was asked to play at other clubs as

well. Carrott has four LP's currently available, his last one being **'THE BEST OF JASPER CARROTT'** for which Jasper received a silver disc. He has toured extensively throughout Great Britain, selling out shows wherever he plays.

Jasper's latest album for release on October 5th, **'THE UNRECORDED JASPER CARROTT'** (DJF 20560) is in fact the show which Jasper performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane earlier this year which went out live on all commercial stations. Umpteen millions watched the show, the results of which can be heard again on this album which includes some of the livelier parts that the TV audience weren't privileged to see; for example, **'EXPLOSIVE GASSES'** which isn't quite what it appears from the title!



ALBUMS POPULAR

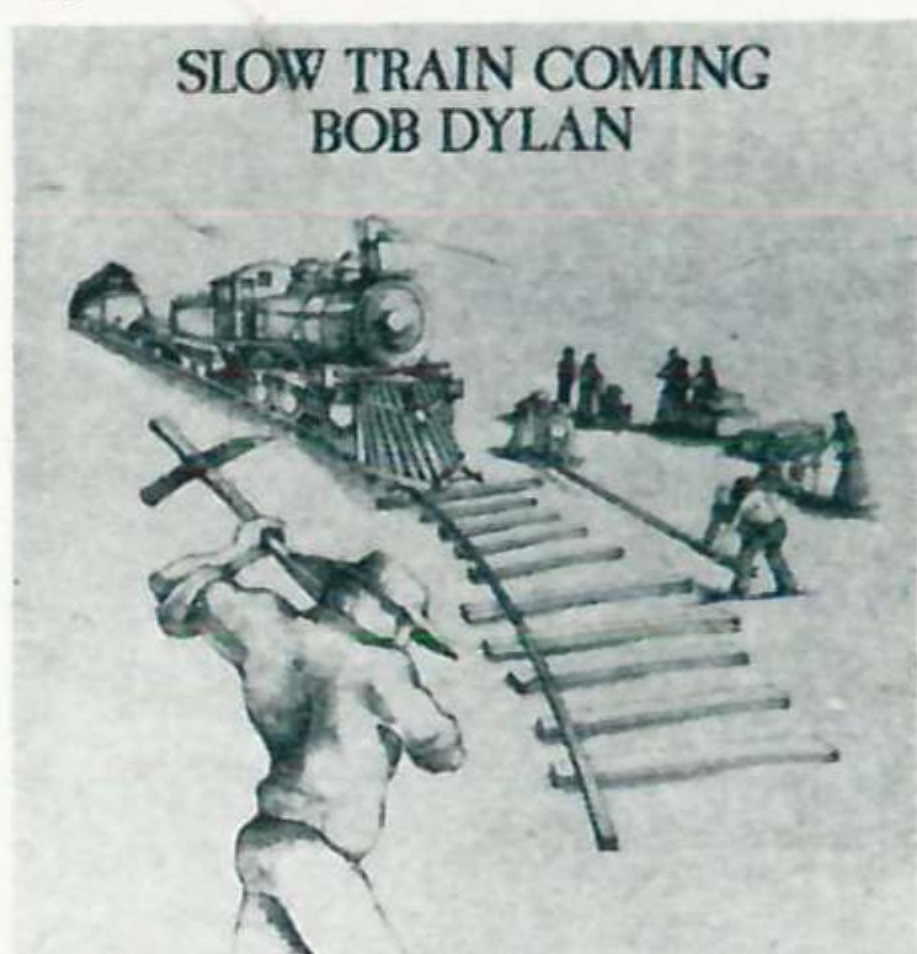


NEW RELEASES



BOB DYLAN Slow Train Coming

The new album from Bob Dylan is entitled 'Slow Train Coming' and is produced by Jerry Wexler and Barry Beckett who have recently had much success with Dire Straits members and who feature on this album. 'Precious Angel' will be simultaneously released as a single.



Gotta Serve Somebody; Precious Angel; I Believe In You; Slow Train; Gonna Change My Way Of Thinking; Do Right To Me Baby (Do Unto Others); When You Gonna Wake Up; Man Gave Names To All The Animals; When He Returns.

Release: 31st August.

LARRY GATLIN Larry Gatlin's Greatest Hits

Larry Gatlin's Greatest Hits contains his definitive collection of all his huge American hit singles. Recent BBC TV appearances by Larry Gatlin have increased his overall popularity which will result in this album being in demand.



Broken Lady; Night Time Magic; Sweet Beckett Walker; I Just Wish You Were Someone I Love; Delta Duet; I Don't Wanna Cry; Do It Again Tonight; Bitter They Are, Harder They Fall; Statues Without Hearts; The Heart; Love Is Just A Game.

Release: 31st August.

MICHAEL JACKSON Off The Wall

1979 has proved to be one of the Jackson's most successful years to date as a group with three hit singles off the 'Destiny' album, two of which went top five. Michael is front man for the group and has also starred alongside Diana Ross in the film musical 'The Wiz' receiving rave reviews for his performance as the scarecrow. 'Off The Wall' is Michael's first solo album. The first 20,000 copies of the album contain a free picture single of Michael singing 'You Can't Win' from The Wiz, a track which is not on the album.



Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough; Rock With You; Working Day And Night; Get On The Floor; Off The Wall; Girlfriend; She's Out Of My Life; I Can't Help It; It's The Falling In Love; Burn This Disco Out.

Release: 31st August.

MICHAEL JACKSON Don't Stop Until You Get Enough

c/w I Can't Help It

'Don't Stop Until You Get Enough' is Michael Jackson's first solo single for many years and is taken from his forthcoming album 'Off The Wall'. 'Don't Stop Until You Get Enough' was written by Michael, co-produced by Michael and Quincy Jones, and has also been picked as the single for release in America. It will be a major disco and radio hit particularly as 1979 has been the best year ever for the Jacksons as a group and also for Michael who starred alongside Diana Ross in the major feature film 'The Wiz'.

Release: 24th August

AVIARY Soaring

c/w Feei The Heart

Aviary are a five piece rock-based band from the States with a musical style that defies categorisation. This new single 'Soaring' was written by Brad Love of Aviary and was produced and engineered by Garry Lyons. It is undoubtedly the most outstanding track both lyrically and musically from their debut album released recently and given a reasonable amount of airplay will certainly establish the band in the UK.

Release: 24th August

BARRY WHITE Love Ain't Easy

c/w I'm On Fire

Barry White's new single from the 'Message Is Love' album has just been released in the U.S. and is looking like becoming his biggest hit ever. Reputed to be his favourite track from the album, it is sure to find a place on every major playlist in the country and will thereby follow in the line of almost continuous hits from Barry.

Release: 24th August

NINA HAGEN TV-Glotzer (White Punks On Dope)

c/w Naturtrane

Nina Hagen visited London in June and excited considerable media interest at that time. U.K. reaction to her debut album promises to be as warm as the golden continental reaction. Now available in seven inch format are two of the tracks, including Ms. Hagen's reworking of White Punks On Dope. Startlingly original it carries the title TV-Glotzer.

Release: 24th August

SINGLES

RON WOOD Seven Days

c/w Come To Realise

Following on from the New Barbarians' recent appearance at the Knebworth Festival comes the first single release, from Ron Wood's solo album 'Gimme Some Neck' a song written specially for Ron by Bob Dylan himself. The single is entitled 'Seven Days'.

Release: 24th August

CHICAGO Must Have Been Crazy

c/w Closer To You

The gentlemen of Chicago have no time for superstition. Taken from their '13' album, 'Must Have Been Crazy' demonstrates that they continue to produce really classy singles that emphasise their considerable range of skills.

Release: 24th August



Peter Barnes West Bromwich Albion's new signing seen here in action against the visiting Chinese team.

The Omen is good for Albion

The opening day of the new Football League season provided an interesting clash between two friends, West Bromwich Albion manager Ron Atkinson and Derby County boss, Colin Addison.

The game finished a goalless draw, which was disappointing for Ron Atkinson and rewarding for Addison who had the satisfaction of taking an away point from one of the top teams.

But this is not the first time that the two have met as opposing managers. The previous occasion was in the comparative tranquility of the Welsh Valleys, albeit covered in coal dust, on April 5, 1977. Colin Addison was in charge of County — Newport County, that is — then a struggling outfit near the bottom of the Fourth Division.

He was just newly installed

as the club manager, and faced the daunting task of taking on Ron Atkinson's Cambridge United, firmly perched on top of the table.

It was a night match and Cambridge United could not settle. They soon found themselves a goal down and by the interval the supercharged Newport side were two up.

There was obvious consternation in the Cambridge camp, which turned to horror when the Welsh side increased their lead to 3-0 just after the restart.

Although Cambridge United staged a late rally, the outcome of the game was a 4-2 win for the underdogs of Newport County, and one man who remembers that game well is Brendon Batson, Albion's right back who was in that Cambridge side.

"It was a traumatic experience for us all," he recalls. But before Albion fans get too dispondent and start believing that "Addo" their former assistant manager holds the sign over Ron Atkinson there is a comforting analogy.

For if omens are anything to go by, and one dictionary definition of an omen is, 'prophetic signification', then Albion fans can look forward to this season with confidence. For although Colin Addison and County won the game in 1977, Ron Atkinson won the battle. For Cambridge United went on to win the Fourth Division Championship, and Atkinson was named as the sections manager of the year. Can history repeat itself?

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inside story

WHAT A DEBUT

We all know the soccer saying: Bring your boots, you could get a game.

Steve Murcott still can't believe that it came true for him, and in a First Division match.

He says wonderingly: "Ron Wylie always told me, 'Come to all the first team matches, you might be needed.' I always thought he was joking until I really was needed against Norwich."

And it was lucky that Steve's size 10 boots were handy, otherwise he would have had to have played in Jim Holton's rubbers. "Jim and I are the only players in the club who take size 10 boots. Luckily mine were handy because we had played a Midland Intermediate League home match that morning."

But in the mad panic to get changed to play with only seconds to spare Steve had to wear a pair of shorts which were too tight for him. "I didn't have time to worry about that. I knew I had to get out there as fast as I could," he says.

Even now he tingles at the memory of that day. There was no hint of the thrill to come when he and his parents and outside-left Peter Bodak, left the training ground after the goalless draw against Nottingham Forest.

The diary of events went like this:

12.40 p.m. Final whistle in Midland Intermediate League match.

1.15 p.m. Steve, his parents and Peter Bodak leave training ground and call at chip shop in Ryton.

1.30 p.m. Steve and Peter report to Highfield Rd for club photograph.

2.15 p.m. Steve and Peter buy

coke and crisps in stadium bar. 2.57 p.m. Steve takes seat in Main Stand with parents. Sees Jim Blyth limping from the pitch. 2.59 p.m. Dashes into dressing rooms to be :Get stripped, you are playing."

3.05 p.m. First Division match against Norwich kicks-off with Steve making his League debut in goal.

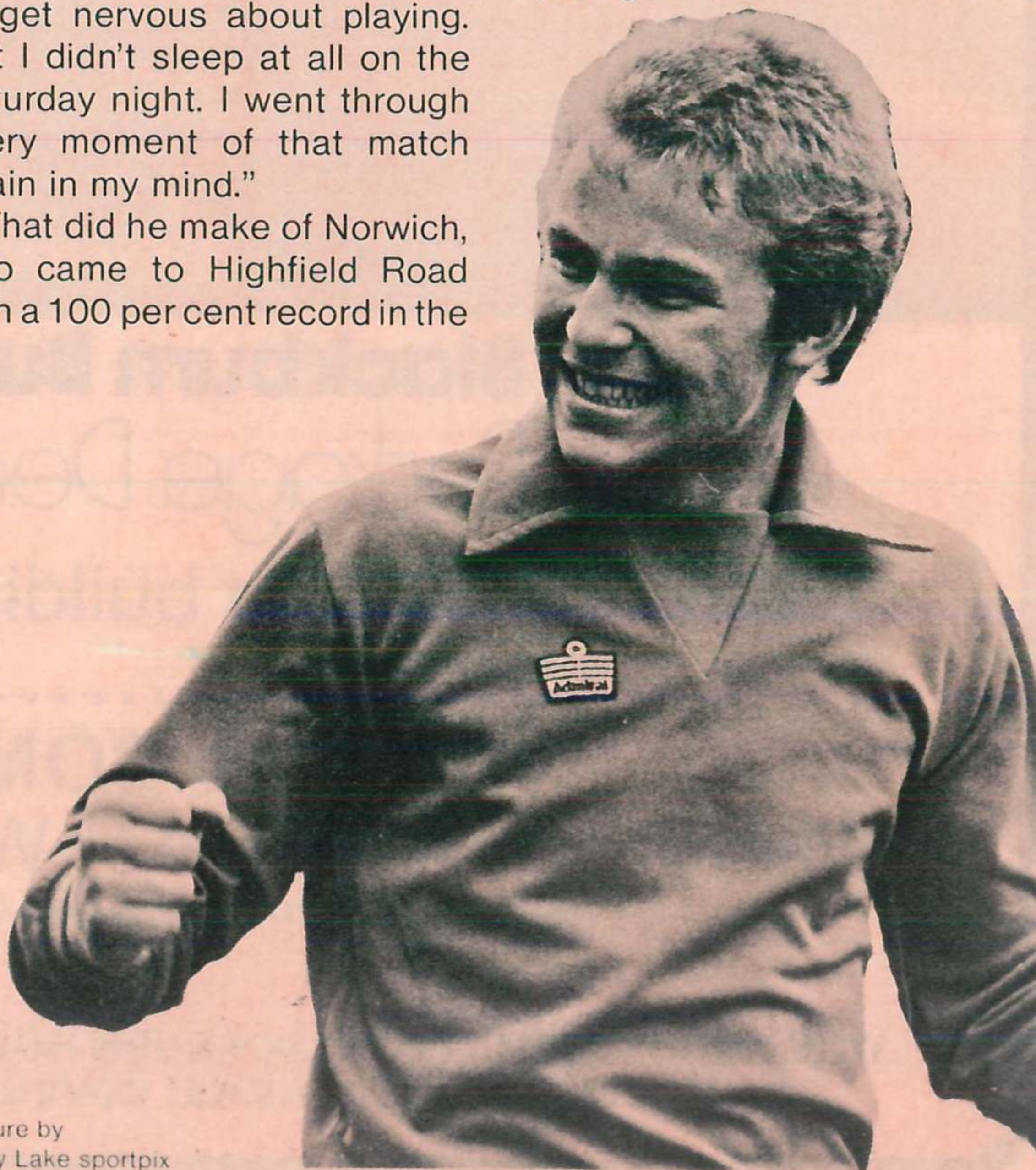
"I literally threw my clothes on to the dressing room floor as I got changed," he said. "It was pandemonium. I didn't have time to get nervous about playing. But I didn't sleep at all on the Saturday night. I went through every moment of that match again in my mind."

What did he make of Norwich, who came to Highfield Road with a 100 per cent record in the

First Division? "Not much. They didn't really put me under any real pressure. I enjoyed playing in front of a big crowd. I had often wondered how it would affect me and I was pleased to discover that it spurred me on."

Now he finds himself in the No. 2 goalkeeping spot while Jim Blyth recovers from his injury and Les Sealey takes over in the first team.

"At least I know now what it is like to play in the First Division, and it has made me all the more determined to make it to the top," says the Birmingham youngster.



Picture by
Terry Lake sportpix

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around the grounds

with MIKE DALE

"Where have all the players gone? Into Maine Road everyone," the words of the old song could read these days.

I never thought I would live to see the day when player transfers attracted more attention and interest than the great game itself.

What happens out there on the pitch these days almost plays second fiddle to the crazily spiralling fees being paid for more and more players.

It has almost reached the stage where a League table of transfer fees supercedes the more traditional method of assessing a team's worth.

Manchester City top the transfer league with deals totalling a massive £4½ million. Gleeful players are staggering to and from Maine Road knowing they are financially secure for the rest of their lives.



Steve Daley

The latest, Steve Daley of Wolves picked up a cool £60,000 plus from his £1½ million move there last week, and Wolves hardly waited for the ink to dry on the cheque before they were trying to spend it on Villa's Andy Gray.

It was only last Spring that Trevor Francis became Britain's first £1 million footballer. By the time you are reading this we could have two players sold for

half as much money again than Forest paid Birmingham for Francis.

But at least it keeps the Midlands on the football map. Each of the first three £1 million footballers have been sold by Midlands clubs.

And yet at the end of the day I suspect we shall all look back next May and quietly judge that the £85,000 Wolves spent on Emlyn Hughes was just about the best deal of the season.



Frank Carrodus

Spare a thought too for Frank Carrodus of Aston Villa who has been more familiar with hospital wards than football grounds in the last nine months.

Frank has had three operations on his left leg since his last first team game way back in October. At one point the injured leg had wasted to three inches narrower than the right, but now he is on the way to recovery after a punishing training stint with Northern athletes.

Don Givens of Blues is also having his share of bad luck. Givens, who missed only 4 matches last season, is having Achilles tendon trouble which has restricted him to 45 minutes soccer this season.



Don Givens

Five Midlands players were in the England Under-21 squad for Wednesday's match against Denmark. They were Derek Stat-ham, Bryan Robson and Gary Owen of West Brom and Gordon Cowans and John Deehan of Villa.



Bryan Robson

Albion made their contribution to the crazy transfer scene a couple of weeks ago when they paid £125,000 for 17 years old Ian Benjamin who had played only 4 senior games for Sheffield Utd. They pay another £25,000 if he plays 50 first team games. At that money I am surprised there is any doubt.

welcome today's visitors



The First Division would not be the same without Bolton Wanderers. They were one of the founder members of the Football League when it was formed in 1888 and this is their 52nd season in the First Division.

Unfortunately although they have had much success in the F.A. Cup, they have still to win the coveted League Championship.

They began life as Christ Church F.C. in 1874 and three years later changed their title to the present one.

After being relegated several times to the Second Division in their formative years, eventually they gathered a team capable of sustaining them in Division One. They enjoyed an unbroken spell in the top flight from 1911 to

1933.

The seventies started badly for this famous old club. In 1970-71 they were relegated to the Third Division for the first time in their history, but two years later they finished champions and then regained First Division status in 1977-78 after twice finishing in third place in Division 2.

Last season the Wanderers finished in 17th place with 35 points, but in Frank Worthington, the former England player, and Alan Gowling, they produced one of the best strike pairings in the

section.

Worthington (25 League goals) was the country's second top scorer behind Frank Stapleton of Arsenal (27). Gowling scored 15 goals.

Ironically, for a club with so good a Cup record, they have gone out of the League Cup in successive seasons to Third Division sides.

They began this season in fine style as follows:

Aston Villa (h) drew 1-1 Whatmore
Liverpool (a) drew 0-0
Southampton (h) won 2-1 McNab, Whatmore
Southend (h) L.C. lost 1-2 Gowling
Brighton (a) lost 1-3 Walsh
Southend (a) L.C. drew 0-0

BOLTON

& ALL THEIR SUPPORTERS

JIM McDONAGH (Goalkeeper)

Jim must be the bargain of the decade, signing for the club for a £10,000 fee three seasons ago after a month on loan. Six feet tall, he matches his height with ability and has proved to be a very consistent keeper.

TERRY POOLE (Goalkeeper).

Signed from Huddersfield Town three years ago for a £25,000 fee, Terry has found his opportunities strictly limited by the good form of Jim McDonagh. Before the start of the present season, he had made just one first team appearance in the League Cup at Exeter in 1978.

DAVID BURKE (Defender).

David emerged onto the first team scene at the start of last season. From Winsford, Cheshire he made his senior debut against Chelsea in the League Cup. Can play at full back or in midfield and is a very exciting prospect.

DAVE CLEMENT (Defender).

England international fullback signed from Queens Park Rangers for a £150,000 fee during the close season. He is a very experienced player who will add stability to the Wanderer's back line and enjoys joining in attacks as well.

PETER NICHOLSON (Defender).

Signed for the Wanderers from Blackpool for a small fee prior to the 1971-72 season and has proved to be a fantastic bargain. He can play anywhere in defence and adapted in fine style to the demands of the First Division last season.

ROY GREAVES (Midfield).

The Wanderer's longest-serving player. Born in Farnworth, near Bolton, he has a well-earned reputation for being a non-stop worker who likes to be involved all the time.

PAUL JONES (Defender).

Paul is a tall, quick tackling defender who has been a member of the Under-23 and full England squads. He is a commanding player in the air as well as on the ground and has a habit of scoring vital goals. Can also play at full back with distinction.

SAM ALLARDYCE (Defender).

A central defender born in the Midlands, Sam joined the Wanderers from school. Made his debut in 1975 and is another player who can score goals particularly with his head from set pieces. Had a spell out of the side last season after losing his place because of injury.

MIKE WALSH (Defender).

Manchester-born Mike joined the Wanderers from school. He earned a regular place in the side after being groomed for a

couple of seasons and is equally proficient in the middle of the defence, at full back or midfield.

NEIL McNAB (Midfield).

Joined the Wanderers from Spurs last season for a £250,000 fee. A willing worker he is a fine passer of the ball and enjoys himself in the thick of the action.

PETER REID (Midfield).

Joined Bolton from school on Merseyside. Was a regular member of the England Under-21 side which he also skippered. A very talented player who had the misfortune to sustain a severe knee injury which put him out of action for the second half of last season.

LEN CANTELLO (Midfield).

Len cost the Wanderers a record £350,000 fee when he signed from West Bromwich Albion in the close season. He is the sort of midfield player who delights in stamping his authority on a game. Always looking for a chance to attack he is an exciting player with an eye for seeing an unexpected opening.

WILLIE MORGAN (Winger).

Started his career with Burnley then moved to Manchester United for a big fee. Returned to Burnley and was signed by the Wanderers four seasons ago on a free transfer. A Scottish international, Willie spent last summer playing in American football.

NEIL WHATMORE (Striker)

Strong attacker with a flair for scoring goals. Was a prolific scorer in the Second Division, but found his appearances limited last season. Can also play midfield with good effect.

FRANK WORTHINGTON (Striker).

Colourful character who makes a big impact wherever he plays. Signed for the Wanderers for a £90,000 fee from Leicester City in October 1977 after a spell on loan. An England international, Frank was the club's leading scorer last season and spent the summer playing in America.

ALAN GOWLING (Striker)

Signed for a £120,000 fee from Newcastle United two seasons ago. Started his career with Manchester United and then moved to Huddersfield when Bolton boss Ian Greaves was manager there. Spent four years at Newcastle.

TADEUSZ NOWAK (Winger).

Polish attacker who won international honours at every level for his country. Signed just before the end of last season from Warsaw club Legia. The fee has not been disclosed by manager Ian Greaves but it is estimated to be around £50,000.



Frank Worthington



Willie Morgan

Picture by Terry Lake sportpix

Tadeusz is a tall, speedy player who can play in any attacking position.

CHRIS THOMPSON (Striker).

A speedy attacker with plenty of skill, Chris joined the Wanderers from school. He became an apprentice and then went on to sign full professional forms in July, 1977. Has represented England at youth level.

MIKE GRAHAM (Defender).

Youngster who joined the Wanderers from school and made the breakthrough onto the senior scene last season. A strong tackling full back, he looks to have a very bright future in the game. Born in Lancaster.

GOLFING FIND

A pure fluke set schoolteacher Andrew Carman on a sporting route which led him to the final of the English Amateur Golf Championship.

"I was eleven when I found a golf ball near the Pitch and Putt course in the Memorial Park. Then two pals of mine who lived nearby told me they had bought two golf clubs from their brother. They were a five-iron and a putter and they sold them to me for sixpence each," says Andrew, now 25.

"It was only later that I discovered they had been pinched from the same Pitch and Putt course where I found the golf ball."

But to have two clubs and a golf ball was all Andrew needed to be bitten by the bug.

"I began putting practice in Spencer Park, went from there to the Memorial Park course and then joined Hearsall Golf Club," he said.

He was a scratch golfer at the age of 19 and switched to Finham Golf Club, "because it offers a greater variety of shots."

He thought seriously at that stage of joining the professional golf circuit.

"But I was dominated by the fear that I might only be a second rate pro. Also looking towards 30, I was sure that family life - a wife and children - would be important to me, and I did not want to be living out of a suitcase for 35 weeks of the year on the pro circuit."

So, having achieved the necessary "O" and "A" Levels at Bablake School, he went off to Leeds University to get a degree in Economics.

He now teaches that subject, plus tennis, to the pupils of King Henry V111 School, Coventry.

It was at Leeds that he met up with Norman Hunter and Johnny Giles. "A golf match was arranged between the University and the



Football Club, and my partner and I were drawn against Norman and Johnny.

"Norman's own golf is a bit like his football. He is aggressive and strong, and hits the ball a long way."

But Andrew's own game suffered at University. "I neglected it because of my studies."

Since starting teaching however, he has practised hard and the highlight of his golfing career came last month when he won through to the English Amateur Championship Match Play Final.

It was over 36 holes at Royal St. George, Sandwich, Kent where the 1981 British Open will be held.

He lost to Roger Chapman from Kent and admits: "My driving was really off-form."

He and Chapman now represent England in the Fiat Trophy International Tournament in Turin, Italy later this month.

But Andrew has plenty of championships to his credit. He is the Warwickshire Colts Champion (Under-25) and the Warwickshire Match Play Champion. He also

finished runner-up in the Warwickshire Open to Joe Higgins of Nuneaton.

His ambitions now are to further make his mark on the Amateur Golf scene with a view to winning a Walker Cup place.





A study in concentration from Steve Hunt and Glen Hoddle. Picture by Bob Thomas

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Name your sport and Nicky Phillips can probably produce a medal he has won playing it.

The young East Londoner has medals to show for the High Jump, the Javelin, Swimming and Soccer as well as playing cricket for Essex Boys.

Eighteen years old Nicky from West Ham could probably have reached the heights as an athlete, swimmer or cricketer but he chose football and last October he was signed on to the full professional staff at this club.

Derek Woods, the Essex scout who "discovered" Tom English, pointed young Nicky in the direction of the Sky Blues when he was 15.

"I used to play in the same Sunday team as Tom but I was a year older and joined this club

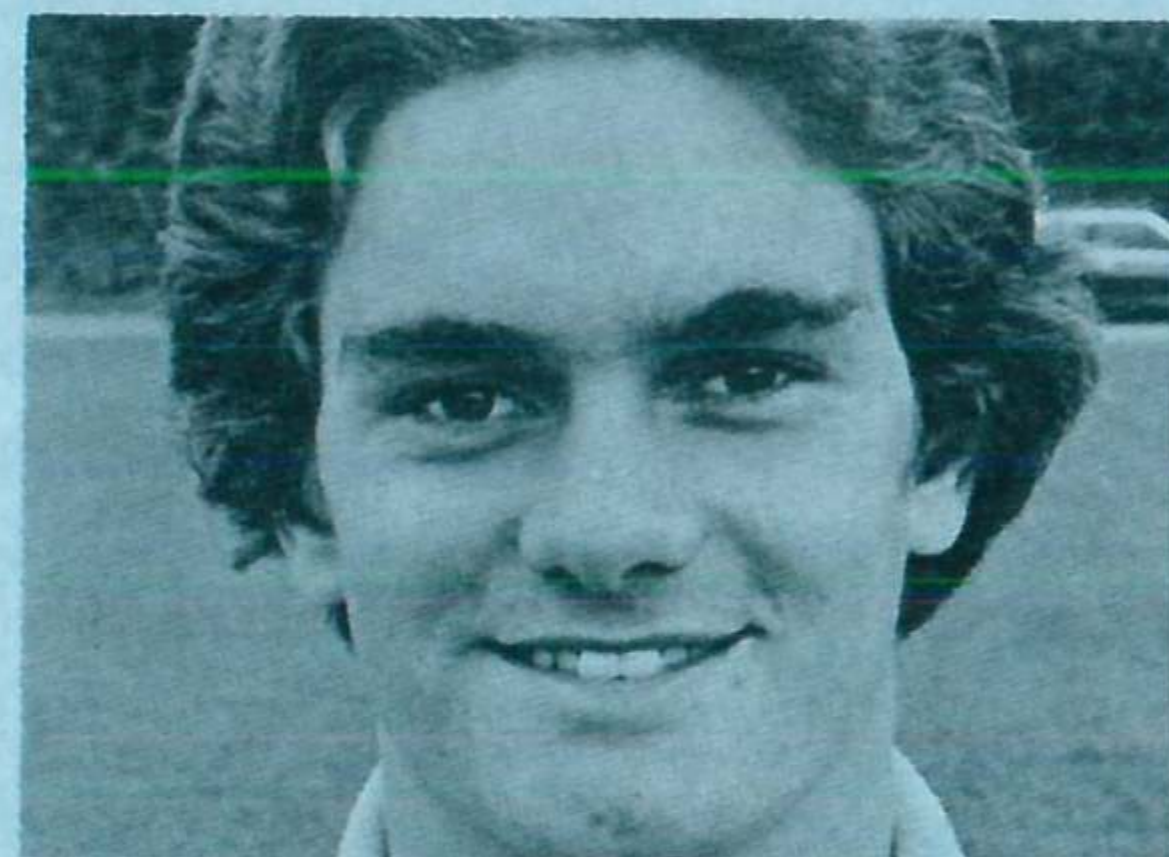
12 months before he did," he says, in the accent of a true Londoner.

Nicky frankly admits that his young life in the East End streets were rough. "It was hard down there. I began playing soccer in the streets and there were frequent fist fights among the kids."

His role in midfield in any team he plays for is that of ball winner and he is currently making a success of that in the Central League side.

The highlight of his season so far was to be included in the first team squad for the League Cup second leg tie against Ipswich.

"I had no chance of playing but



one or two of the younger players were included in the squad to give us an idea of what goes on.

But nevertheless it showed Nicky and Danny Thomas, who was also in the squad, that they are on the fringe of the team and there is plenty of evidence that tenderness in years is no barrier to first team football with the Sky Blues.



news desk

Dear Sirs,

In the 'Sky Blue' matchday magazine of the 10th Feb. '79 you printed a letter from a Miss Donna Rice from Portland OR, USA.

During the summer I spent three weeks on holiday in Portland visiting a friend from Coventry who lives there and I also arranged to meet Donna.

Well soon after we met we fell in love with each other and got engaged. She will be coming to England to live in September and we intend to marry in the near future.

All I'd like to say is thank you for printing that letter, if you hadn't I guess we'd never have met.

We will be cheering on the Sky Blues together at all home games and hope for a successful season.

Yours faithfully,
Philip Sephton.

Glad to hear you have made your "Match of the Day" Philip. We hope you will bring Donna to see us when she arrives.

RADIO SKY BLUE

There were no correct entries for the Radio Sky Blue Quiz in the Norwich programme but Harjinder Kaur of 34, King Richard Street, Coventry was successful in the quiz in the Ipswich programme.

TALBOT FAIR PLAY

Steve Hunt and Gary Gillespie head the Fair Play League with Bobby McDonald a close second. Marks in recent matches were as follows:

Ipswich (a) - Blyth 9, Hutchison 9, Hunt 9.

Norwich - (h) Murcott 10, Gillespie 9.

Ipswich (h) - Holton 8, Gillespie 8, McDonald 8.

Liverpool (a) - Hunt 8.
Hunt 25, Gillespie 25, McDonald 24, English 16, Murcott 10, Blyth 9, Hutchison 9, Holton 8, Powell 8.

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS' BALLOT

Mr. G. Thornley of 175, The Boxhill, Stoke Aldermoor gets a £15 voucher to be spent within one month at The Vaults Restaurant, Regent Hotel, Leamington Spa.

FACE IN THE CROWD

The face in the Norwich programme was Sean Richardson of 32, Offer Rd, Leamington Spa. He won two tickets for the Ipswich match. The lucky winner of the competition in the Ipswich programme was Alan Darby of 46, Ribble Rd, Stoke, Coventry.

TODAY'S REFEREE

Stephen Bates of Bristol will enjoy the sight of groundsman Eddie Hartley's work this afternoon. Mr. Bates is a landscape gardener whose interests also include horticulture. He started refereeing 14 years ago in the Bristol leagues and was linesman in the Wales Centenary International against West Germany in 1976 and F.A. Cup semi-final Arsenal v. Wolves last season.

CROSSWORD WINNER

Master Steve Owen of 65, Broad Park Rd, Wyken sent in the first correct solution to the crossword in the Norwich programme.

SKY BLUE PLAYERS' FAN CLUBS

Bobby McDonald C/o Miss Sue Weale, 5, South Ridge, Allesley Park, Coventry CV5 9LL.

Quick Quiz answers

1. Portsmouth, who did it in 1948-49.
2. Bob Wilson, now a B.B.C. television commentator.
3. AC Milan and Inter Milan share this Italian ground.
4. Bayern Munich beat Atletico Madrid in the replay.
5. Nottingham Forest.
6. West Ham's Jim Barrett made his debut for England v. Ireland in 1929 but was carried off after 8 minutes and never represented his country again.





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